



Inside this issue:

President's Message 2

Kudos 3

October Meeting Review 4-5

Tips & Tidbits 6

Simply Clear Story 7

Writer By The Sea 8

Word Play 9

Critique Corner 10

Scarecrow Festival Photos 11

NaNoWriMo 12

NW Member Ad 13

NW Information 13-15



SLO Night Writers

WORDSMITHS



November 2018



As writers, let us be thankful for our muse, whatever that may be. See what Morgann Tayllor has to say in her Word Play column.

When Persistence Pays Off

Consider what Mary Shelley went through

"I don't believe you could pick a better person for a talk on persistence," Mark Arnold, the award-winning author of *Monster: the Story of Young Mary Shelley*, said of his upcoming presentation at SLO NightWriters' General Meeting November 13 at 6:30 p.m.

And here he explains why that is:

Ten years ago I attended a keynote talk kicking off the Central Coast Writers Conference, where the speaker was asked whether a 50-year-old had any chance of publishing.

His answer was very short.

He said, "No."

One year ago, when I was 66, I published my debut novel, *Monster: the Story of Young Mary Shelley*. I think the key to my success is persistence.

Part of me agrees with Steve Martin when he says, "Persistence is a great substitute for talent."

I mean, if I had talent I wouldn't have to work so hard, right?

But then, I happened to see the movie *Galaxy Quest*. The tagline for the movie is:



"Never Give Up. Never Surrender"

So the first part of this talk is one of those inspirational themed, "If you think you have it tough, you should know about what Mary Shelley went through."

I'll tell you what one of the most successful authors in history went through on her road to publication.

Continued on Page 3



President's Message

by Janice Konstantinidis



*A rhyme loving poet
named West,*

*wrote sonnets all over
her vest.*

*When asked for a
reason, she cried,*

*“Oh, 'tis the season,
for a jingle or two on
the breast.”*

Janice Konstantinidis

Hello Fellow NightWriters.

As I sit here in my summer clothes, looking out the window at a glorious day in the 80's, I could be lured into thinking that summer is still with us. However, the fact that the furnace comes on later in the evening, and I am beginning to rake leaves, tells me otherwise.

Looking past the glorious day and over to distant trees, I see the changing of color, and I welcome the fall. Seasonal changes are always interesting to me; I like to find their individual beauty. Quite a few years ago, I lost my partner to sudden death. Before his death, I used to complain about the end of summer, the coldness of winter, or whatever it was that didn't suit me about whatever season it was. When my partner died, along with the sadness of loss, there came the realization of the shortness of

life. I vowed I would love something in all seasons and be grateful to be alive.

So far, it's worked very well. I think I've loved more snow scenes and frosty mornings than ever; delighted in fallen leaves, spring bulbs and magical summer evenings. More over, when a day like today comes. I am happy to relish the best of both seasons.

I am looking forward to next year's general meeting programs. Thank you to Tammie Burned for stepping up to be Program Director as of January 2019. After five years in the in that position, I am happy to see what Tammie can bring to the membership. Welcome and thank you, Tammie!

Stay tuned for my notice for news about my last December holiday program. Santa and Mrs.

Santa will be in attendance to take note of all members who've been naughty or nice, and to hear stories from the membership.

Welcome to our three new members to SLO NightWriters this month! We are pleased to have you on board. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

I wish you all a happy fall, Halloween and Thanksgiving.

Kind regards,

*Janice Konstantinidis
President
SLO NightWriters*



SLO NightWriters busy in varied roles at the Central Coast Writers Conference. More to come next month.

Kudos, Kudos, Kudos...

Terry Sanville

Terry Sanville, who provides expertise for members at the monthly critique table, has a number of kudos to report. He's been sending his work out since 2005 and so far has received 342 acceptances. "I never get tired of getting 'em," he says.

"Hooked," a short story by Terry, was a finalist in the Adelaide Literary Award Contest for the Best Short Story of 2018. Terry's story will appear in the upcoming edition of Adelaide Literary Magazine, a print journal out of New York City and Lisbon.

His short story "Bugs" will appear in the Spring 2019 edition of *The MacGuffin*, a print journal published by Schoolcraft College in Livonia, Michigan.

"Pozo," a magical realism short story by Terry, will appear in the Fall/Winter 2019

edition of *The Stray Branch*, a print and online literary journal out of Dayton, Ohio.

Terry's short story "Vale of Tears" will appear in the November 2018 edition of *Ethos Literary Journal*, a print and online biannual publication put out by Hawakal Publishers, one of the acclaimed small presses in India.

His short story "Little Mercies" will appear in the 2019 edition of *The Bryant Literary Review*, a print journal published by Bryant University of Smithfield, Rhode Island.

"Vale of Tears," will also appear in Issue #21 (Fall 2020) of the Evening Street Review out of Sacramento, California. Issue #21 will be the third issue in a row that contains Terry's work. "I guess they like me in Sacramento," he says.

Have Kudos to Crow About?

Do you have a recent article or story published in a local, national or even international print or online magazine? Or a book published?

How about a review, or an award, honor or recognition of your writing?

If so, we'd like to know about it. To have your literary kudos included in WordSmiths, send an email to Lillian Brown at lilliofslo@aol.com by the 15th of the month.



Check out Lili Sinclair's website at: www.LiliSinclair.com for details on her books.

Lili Sinclair

Lili Sinclair, who has three books coming out in December, says that she's opened up a new avenue in the journey of promoting her works.

"I recently met the president of the local chapter of The National Alliance for Mental Illness - NAMI. She read my book, *The Fork in the Path, Nine Mindful Choices to Well-Being*, and was very impressed. She invited me to their next meeting. At the beginning of the meeting she shared my book, and asked me to stand. They've asked me to speak at their January meeting, and I feel honored and excited about this opportunity."

Tammie Burnsed

Tammie had her Halloween story "The Obituary Writer" published in *Simply Clear*. (See page 7.) She also had a short story rejected by *Glimmer Train*, but she's going to keep trying!

Laurence Houlgate

Larry Houlgate just published the fourth and final book in his series of "Smart Student Guides to Philosophical Classics." It is now available on Amazon as an e-book for \$3.99 and a paper version at \$6.99 should be available in about one week.

When Persistence Pays Off

Continued from Page 1

In the second part, I'll show you several concrete steps I have found invaluable in cultivating the persistence you need to help you achieve your goal.

"Success consists of going from failure to failure without losing enthusiasm."

Winston Churchill

Round Table Critique Sessions begin at 5:15 p.m. Sign-in at the welcome table before going to your critique group.

Dave Congalton Provides Tips on Screen Writing

Review & Photos by Dennis Eamon Young

The October meeting began when Terry Sanville and Susan Tuttle called their 12 assembled acolytes to order for the evenings' critique session. Big smiles were abundant as pieces were read, advice was meted out, opinions and suggestions were duly noted. Writers helping writers, which is exactly what NightWriters has been doing since 1988. No big ego trips or attitudes, just writers paying it forward for prior help and encouragement received.

A small break at 6:15, then the 'housekeeping' section of the evening proceeded, wherein we all discovered the following:

Sue McGinty informed the gathered about the upcoming *Mystery Writers Night at Trilogy* in Nipomo, where a panel of said writers would hold forth about their writing and answer questions from the audience.

Jean Moelter announced that her popular book/play, *HOLY CRAP*, about a Catholic schoolgirl would now be available as an audio book. Irreverently funny it is, for sure. Get it!

Brian Schwartz announced his *GET PUBLISHED NOW* workshop at Cal Poly, wherein he will help writers attain the heights of publication by implementation of a detailed plan of action rather than pushing through the possible potholes of the journey.

Deborah Kruger announced her children's book, *LET'S PLAY GRATITUDE*, which is meant to help children

(Continued on next page.)



Dave recently sold his screenplay, "Christmas on the Couch" to Hallmark, and provided tips on how fellow writers might do the same.



October Meeting Review

(Continued from previous page.)

navigate the thorny process of growing up in our culture.

Last, but never least, Susan Tuttle, our own mistress of murder and mayhem showed her newest release, *TOUGH BLOOD*, showcasing her tougher than nails female P.I., Skylark. Sounds cute, but do not get in her way, or even think about it!

Now, on to the main event, our President, Janice Konstantinidis introduced our guest speaker, a man who really does not need an introduction, the popular radio personality, Dave Congalton. Dave has long been a friend of all writers, having been responsible for captaining the Central Coast Writers Conference and always willing to very generously lend an ear and a hand to NightWriters.

Dave harbored his own dream for many years - to become a successful scriptwriter, seeing his story, *AUTHORS ANONYMOUS*, become a movie. On the verge of possibly giving up on what is an audacious dream, when you look at the odds, he did succeed and saw the dream come to fruition after all. Hard work and perseverance does indeed pay off in the long run! Dave led the charge, showing us all that it can be done, but now he came to tell us about the next step.

At this moment Dave has three scripts out and he

keeps working on moving them forward. In the meanwhile, he has discovered a new venue to sell ideas to and this is what he has generously come to share with us, even bringing a detailed handout for other writers to pore over. The title of his talk, *WRITING FOR HALLMARK MOVIE CHANNEL AND LIFE-TIME*, is a detailed guide to pursuing a new and needy outlet for your creative writing. Well, sort of creative.

As in any profession, you can either be a starving artiste or a working talent. Dave is leading the way into a territory of strict confines and stringent rules. You can be creative, but it must happen in the way and shape laid down by these companies, catering to the tastes of their audiences. The paycheck can be generous for those willing to toe the line. Dave explained all these twists and turns in detail. This is a workshop that would cost a lot at a conference and yet Mr. Congalton is willing to share all this with NightWriters for free.

Dave answered every question and detailed every nuance, explaining all the nuts and bolts that go into this new avenue, which could become very lucrative for the writer willing and able to follow in his footsteps. I believe we all owe a big debt of gratitude to him for this extreme act of generosity.

Thank you so much Dave. You are a gem.



TIPS AND TIDBITS

by Judythe Guarnera

Editing Nightmares

If you've been hanging out in the same writing neighborhood as I've been lately, you might be aware I've been doing a lot of research on how tight writing and the use of white space are critical in our busy world.

Today's reader employs different criteria to choose a book to read than in previous times. You can be one jump ahead of other writers if you eliminate, as Elmore Leonard says, "the stuff that readers skip over."

Write shorter paragraphs, hit the enter key more often to create white space, and readers will give your writing serious consideration.

To further make your writing shine, learn to avoid "Editing Nightmares," as identified by author and publishing consultant Barbara Florio Graham.

AVOID:

Using full justification, which results in too many hyphenated words, unless you really like to annoy your reader. Instead try a ragged right edge, which avoids hyphens and is easier to read.

Mixing styles when you indent a paragraph and follow it with a double space. If your goal is to have a paragraph stand out, you can do so by either strategy. If you use both, you're going to pay more for extra pages and risk annoying your reader who expects more story than what they get.

Tip: Use the extra space you eliminate by hitting enter more often to make your important dialogue, etc. stand out.

The use of dashes, when a comma would work just as well. And don't ever double space after marks that end a sentence. *Totally passé as well as a space waster.*

Long quotes. Dialogue moves the story along but use only key dialogue in quotes and use narrative summary for the rest.

Example: The protagonist answers the phone and engages in lines of chit chat: "Hello; how are you? How's the wife and kids; how's work going?"

Instead: "Greg, it's me. I've got bad news."
Followed by this narrative: *In the next tortuous minutes, he tells his friend about his wife's car accident.*

Inconsistent tenses annoy and confuse the reader, who struggles to figure out the sequence of events. Don't switch from past to present and remember to use past perfect when describing events or actions long past.

Example: He hadn't ridden his motorcycle since the accident five years ago.



Distinguish your characters by giving them distinct styles of speech, accents or mannerisms. *If a character is poorly educated, he will likely sound different than a physician.*

Too much backstory. Readers become annoyed when they must wade through details, when what they really want is to get to the meat of the story.

Rushing to publish without using beta readers and a good editor.

Follow Barbara at:
www.simonteakettle.com/

In the Rhythm of Writing,
Judythe Guarnera



Creations from Cambria's October Scarecrow Festival.

Photo by Dennis Eamon Young

*Congratulations to Tammie Burnsed
 published in October!*

 Community

Coast News • October 25 - November 7, 2018 • 25

The Obituary Writer
 SLO NightWriters

By Tammie Burnsed

With Maggie finally sleeping off her Halloween sugar rush, Cecile walked into the glorified closet she called a home office and sat at her desk. In the darkness, the blue glow of her laptop illuminated her tired face, making every crease throw a longer, deeper shadow than it should.

Deadlines didn't care about holidays or kids who wanted to recap every scary moment of their trick-or-treating adventures. Cecile took a breath and closed her eyes. Her sturdy fingers began clacking at the keys. Though later than she liked, this is how she worked best. No stimulation, no music or television, no lights. She thought better this way. No, little thinking was actually involved. This is how Cecile listened.

She finished the starlet's obit—another heroin overdose—saved the document and dated it for three days ahead. Only once did she send her editor, Danielle, an obituary before the subject had actually died. The Hollywood gossip rag she worked for didn't have a ton of ethics, but printing that last year's top box-office draw was killed when his private jet went down before the event

actually happened was a bit much even for them.

To cover, Cecile fed her boss some BS about a bad source that miraculously became good only 36 hours later. She could tell Danielle didn't really buy it, but she also didn't pursue a more reasonable answer. "Good job," Danielle had said, and put Cecile on the obits permanently. "Anyone remotely famous, I want it first. Can you do that?"

Yes, she could. Cecile had seen her first vision the day of her ninth birthday, an image of her lifeless mother laying in a hospital bed a year before the cancer diagnosis even came. Her premonitions were like previews of horror movies. Never anything fun like what she was getting for Christmas or which team her dad should bet on.

There was a time Cecile thought she might figure out how to use her visions to help people, but a life of trying to prevent children from walking into speeding cars or convince strangers to get their blood pressure checked sounded like a short road to suicide. With self-care, meditation and practice, she learned to listen selectively. Mostly

Once while they were arguing, emotions raw and open, Cecile saw a glimpse of her husband stretched out in a coffin wearing a suit he did not yet own. Age spots speckled his bald head, and his white, wiry eyebrows reminded her of Albert Einstein.

He's old, she thought before squeezing the image from her mind. *At least he'll be old.*

Cecile opened a folder marked October 31. A well-known politician dead from heart disease and a couple of actors no one under 50 would even remember. A mercifully slow day. With a couple of clicks, the information would be waiting in her editor's inbox.

She yawned. Shouldn't push it, but with one more assignment done, maybe she could take tomorrow off. Cecile closed her eyes and gave the receptive part of her brain permission to open. The sound of crashing metal filled her head, quickly followed by the sight of a woman, with blood covering most of her face. Even disfigured, the face was undeniably familiar. Light strands of gray salted brown hair that was pulled back in the same pink scrunchie Cecilia

currently wore.

Cecile opened her eyes and read the name she'd typed onto the document. Her own, of course. She pulled the scrunchie from her ponytail and cut it in two, though deep down she knew such a small detail would never change her story.

Tammie Burnsed enjoys writing short stories, especially when they are such a fine distraction from completing revisions on her novel. She is extremely happy to tell you The Obituary Writer is

not auto-biographical. Happy Halloween. Tammie is a member of SLO NightWriters, for writers at all levels in all genres; find them online at slonightwriters.org.



Submit your stories today!

Full submission guidelines for being published in Simply Clear Marketing and Media are available at www.slonightwriters.org.

Submit your 500-600 word short fiction to Jeanie Hundertmark at clementyne@gmail.com

WRITER BY THE SEA

by Dennis Eamon Young

Timing...

France had explored the western Mississippi Valley in the 1700's, but ceded the area to Spain in 1762. Spain returned the territory to France in 1800, but Napoleon was strapped for money due to his overbearing war mongering, so in 1803, he reluctantly sold the territory to the fledgling United States. That deal became known as the Louisiana Purchase, ridiculed at the time, but allowing this country to grow. Timing...

The protagonist in your newest thriller hears shots fired and runs outside in time to see a car racing away into the night, as he comes to the aid of the shooting victim. Having a strong background in automobiles, he has recognized the get-away car. Timing...

There are so many large and small moments in whatever you may be

writing that will hinge on such timing. It is up to you to facilitate the input of all these moments. You will need to orchestrate moments of intuitive timing, such as those that a Sherlock Holmes might employ, or perhaps use a moment of missed timing, critical to moving the story forward rather than ending it abruptly.

How many times have you read that the main character intuitively knows there is something wrong, but it eludes his or her capture until further along in the story, when the timing is sufficiently critical to the larger story. You can visualize a large puzzle spread out on a table. All the pieces are there, but it must be determined not only how the pieces work with each other, but when they fit together to complement the whole. Timing...

SLO NightWriters October meeting hosted Dave Congalton, the radio host and writer of *AUTHORS ANONYMOUS*, which was produced as a movie, fulfilling a life's dream for him. He has told the story of how it took a journey of approximately eight years for this 1 in 5,000 shot to become a reality and he was about to throw in the towel. His wife was adamant that he continue his pursuit. He did and shortly after that he hit pay-dirt. Timing...

Happenstance, the luck of the draw, Kismet, the law of averages, God's will, connections. There are many ways to explain how things do or do not occur in life, but only one way for it to be explained in a written piece. The author has introduced an instance of timing.

Caution! It is incumbent



upon the author to make this important plot device believable. It cannot be haphazardly tossed in. Just like the puzzle on the table, it must fit in the appropriate section and at the precise moment to bring clarity that allows the reader to agree with the circumstances.

Go listen to a good storyteller. Pay attention to where a breath is taken, where there is a pause that allows the listener to engage in a momentary reflection. Timing! Try reading your own work, even if only to yourself. You will quickly understand the nuances of timing, how the pieces do or do not fit together. This is how writers use Beta readers to help with the flow and feel of a work, and then a good editor to help rearrange the pieces for a smooth sense of timing and transitions.

You may be writing a memoir, a mystery, historical fiction, comedy or poetry. It matters not. Just like poor Napoleon, it's all a matter of – Timing...

Excelsior, Dennis



Dave Congalton speaking at October General Meeting.

WORD PLAY

by Morgann Tayllor

WHY?

Ernest Hemingway: "There is nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at a typewriter and bleed."

So why are we writers? Who in their right mind would submit to hours of tedious editing, over a story plot that doesn't quite work, characters who won't behave or words that don't fit?

What calls us to be a committed writer? Love of the written word chooses you, not the other way around. You have no choice; if it's your true calling, the Muse will wreck your body and wrack your soul, it will niggle and nag you, until you submit and come out of the closet.

Angst and nail biting go with the package. So do rewards. Don't wait until your flashes of immortal prose curdle, your fingertips wither and die and regret becomes your epitaph.

We have to write because words are our connection with the universe. Words are imperative. Without them, we have no civilization, no invention, no way to express imagination.

There's help for the writer in seemingly unrelated elements that factor into the art of language and the craft of writing. And it may just change your ideas about....

* * * *

Math...is the magic connector, found in all things, according to some hypotheses. That includes the writer and the process of writing. Einstein: "Logic will get you from A to B; imagination will get you everywhere." Logic in basic writing skills moves toward solutions in story content. But it's the exasperation plus imagination that can determine a brilliant piece of work. Other examples of connection:

* * * *

Music...is universal and so is language. Music rocks. So do babies, when they try to keep time with music. It's said music helps babies learn to talk sooner. Like music, language has rhythm, tempo, tension, tonality, pitch, melody, harmony and more. Mathematics is a silent, but active partner in music and writing.

Art....Words paint a blank page; painters use a blank canvas. Confronting all that white is terrifying

in its purity and nothingness. Slowly the story plot evolves as does the art composition, arranging itself in the formal mathematical Golden Ratio or deliberately breaking the rules with disparate colors, disharmony and imbalance. Think Van Gogh; his feverish color impastos became masterpieces. Behind those paint globs were mathematical foundations. A Da Vinci contemporary once said, "Without mathematics there is no art."

Think of Lewis Carroll, Thomas Pynchon and David Foster Wallace, among our most inventive writers in both the sentences they constructed and the stories they created. The writers all had backgrounds in high-level mathematics. (Worth reading: *Why Writers Should Learn Math* by Alexander Nazaryan, *The New Yorker*, November 2, 2012)

Color...Words have color. Color, canvas or printed page, has a temperature; (red) hot, (blue) cold, (warm) sunlight, (cool) shadow. A straight-forward story might use basic language, (primary colors) that when arranged with other words (colors), can produce hue, tint, tone or shade that could enliven and give texture to your story. Mathematics lurks in the application of paint and words.

Design...As in artwork, type can be cursive, shapely, evocative or plain. That depends on the story and its intent. Most standard publications prefer easy to read fonts. For stories not for publication (yet), have fun with the fonts. Flash fiction with a Victorian setting—how about Apple Chancery or Cambria Math for a scientist with a secret? Design has symmetry, symmetry has math. Even asymmetry, fractals and chaos have predictive qualities.

* * * *

So write on, my friends. Fulfill your destiny, write authentically, and engage your readers. In the spirit of the holidays, Give Thanks to your nagging Muse.



CRITIQUE GROUP COORDINATOR'S CORNER

by Patricia Gimer

August

I hope everyone had a great summer. Didn't it speed by?

Our newsletter was delayed due to illness, and it is good to be getting back on track.

Recently I had the pleasure of sitting in on Rosie's Critique Group held at UCC just prior to the General Meeting from 5:15 – 6:15. In this group, participants make supportive comments on author's read work, just as in groups held elsewhere.

Here's who was present:

Rosie, the coordinator, who writes young adult fiction and Christian non-fiction

Deborah, who writes adult narrative non-fiction and adult and children's fiction

Jill, who writes creative fiction, balancing her humorous side with her "more formal, acceptable side."

Tina, who writes sci-fi and "other things."

Brian, who is working on a novel.

Tory, who is revising the last four chapters of her novel.

Rose is a delightful host, keeps the group moving, and elicits supportive feedback from all. Participants shared valuable ideas on writing, editing, and their individual experiences with publishing.

If you haven't tried Rosie's group, please consider showing up early (Rosie starts at 5:15) for the next NW General meeting on the second Tuesday of every month.



And if you're searching for a critique group outside of the NW monthly meeting place, please contact me and I'll do what I can to help find you a home.

*Write Away,
Pat Gimer,
SLO NightWriters Critique
Group Coordinator*

September

On September 12, I made a visit to observe Susan Tuttle's "Write It Right" group held weekly on Wednesday mornings in the back room of The Coffee Bean in Pismo Beach.

This is a productive group despite the neighboring McDonalds drive-thru order speaker, the coffee shop's music and conversations, and freeway traffic noise as a backdrop.

Write it Right's members include David, Denis, Dennis, Diane, Jody, Judy, Linda, Mary, and Warren. Following Susan's

workbook, members practice her technique of "getting words on the page" without critiquing or editing as they go. This is accomplished as Susan supplies descriptions of various parts of story, followed by writing prompts, and timed assignments.

On this day the first assignment was "The Philosophical Ending" which Susan says is a good way to end a book.

The next assignment was "The Twist Ending." Susan described five types of twist endings:

1. Identity – clues are placed all along the way

2. Motive – a psychological deception
3. Perception – a character realizes reality and must learn something or the reader is disappointed
4. Reversal of fortune – something the character took for granted is lost.

5. Reversal of fulfillment – clues are planted throughout via foreshadowing

Members each chose one type of twist ending, wrote for 15-20 minutes, and later took turns sharing their examples for discussion.

I was impressed with how quickly writers, including myself (I couldn't resist!) rose to the occasion and

quickly wrote synopses of various story ideas to complete the assignment. It definitely got my creative juices flowing!

Susan's group appears to be full, but it's worth a try to get in. If interested, contact Susan at aimtowrite@yahoo.com for more information about visiting or becoming a regular member.

*Write Away,
Pat Gimer,
SLO NightWriters Critique
Group Coordinator*



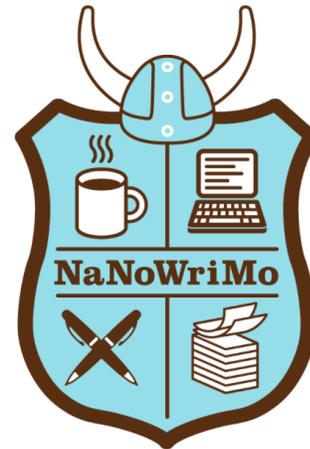
Cambria's October Scarecrow Festival

Photos by Dennis Eamon Young



November is National Novel Writing Month

Join us for a special SLO NightWriters
NaNoWriMo event November 17



by Meagan Frieberg

Writers, aspiring writers, and those wishing to improve their writing skills are encouraged to set aside Saturday, November 17 and join together for a day of writing as part of the National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo).

Sponsored by SLO NightWriters, the "Come Write In" event

is for writers throughout SLO County of all genres and skill levels. It will take place in the large meeting room at the United Church of Christ, located at 11245 Los Osos Valley Road in San Luis Obispo, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This local NaNoWriMo-approved Come Write-In event aims to support

and encourage NaNoWriMo participants to reach their goal of finishing a novel in one month but all are invited to attend.

Stop by anytime between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. ... stay a few hours or stay all day!



NightWriter Member Advertisement



Complete Editing Services
Let me help you Write It Right
 Susan Tuttle, Award Winning Author

Proofreading: spelling, punctuation, and grammar only. The last step before publication.

Cost: \$5/3 pages

What you get: a corrected document. Turnaround time @ 1 week for a 250-300 page manuscript.

Line Editing: spelling, punctuation, grammar, word usage, sentence construction, consistency of voice/style.

Cost: \$5/page

What you get: two documents, one corrected (spelling, punctuation, grammar only), one with suggestions in track changes. Turnaround time @ 1-1/2 weeks for a 250-300 page manuscript.

Developmental Editing: full evaluation of the story and plot, including character development and growth, story arc, use of language, point of view, tense, consistency/believability of story line, subplots, beginning and ending, setting, author's voice/style, etc. Includes spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

Cost: @ \$850-\$1,200 for 250-300 page manuscript, depending on amount of work the manuscript needs. Flat rates also available.

What you get: a document with track changes for spelling, punctuation and grammar, and comments, suggestions, and examples on ways to improve the work. Turnaround time: 2-3 weeks, depending on amount of work needed.

I will never rewrite your work, I will only suggest ways you can make it better, with examples for clarification. My goal is to help strengthen your unique author's voice while making sure you tell the best story you can write.

Beta Reading Services also available, \$50/book.

Contact me at: editme1@yahoo.com

SLO NightWriter Officers

President: Janice Konstantinidis
 Vice-President: **Vacant**
 Secretary: Leonard Carpenter
 Treasurer: Steve Derks
 Program Director: Tammie Burnsed
 Membership Coordinator: Jim Aarons
 Critique Group Coordinator:
 Patricia Gimer
 Social Media/Publicity Coordinators:
 Meagan Friberg &
 Abigail Aarons
 Simply Clear Submissions:
 Jeanie Hundertmark
 Welcome Committee: Jean Moelter
 Sunshine Chair: Torry Dickinson
 Website Master:/Membership
 Janice Konstantinidis
 Web Assistant: Steve Derks
 Newsletter: Lillian Brown
 Art Director/Photographer:
 Dennis Eamon Young
 Member at Large: **Vacant**
 NW Historian: **Vacant**

We Need Your Help

The success of non-profit organizations like NightWriters depends on its members. We all have talents other than writing that any organization could make use of. NightWriters has many special opportunities for members to get involved, working "behind the scenes." If you'd like to assist in any capacity, email: slo-nightwriters@yahoo.com

Monthly Meetings

NightWriters' Evening Meetings: the second Tuesday of every month, year round. We encourage interested visitors to join us at 6:30 pm. Admission free; refreshments served. Next Meeting: November 13, at United Church of Christ, 11245 Los Osos Valley Road, San Luis Obispo 93405.

General meeting begins at 6:30 pm. Round Table presentations start at 5:15 pm. Writers' Critique Groups: Free for members, \$5 for non-members. These groups read and critique each other's work and discuss the business of writing. Visitors welcome; phone ahead to make arrangements. For details, visit our website: www.slonightwriters.org.

Have You Checked Out Our Website Lately?

Control Your Own Information

Post your bio, picture, book covers and ordering links. Contribute a writing blog post-free publicity!

MEMBER SITE LINKS

List your website(s) and blog(s) with live links — makes it easier for the public to find you and helps build your platform.

BOOK REVIEWS

Get your book reviewed. Write a review—it's a valid publishing credit.

WRITERS SERVICES

Do you have a writing or professional skill? Get listed on our new Services Page. (Returning next issue.)

FACEBOOK

Become a "Fan" of NightWriters! Visit NW's Facebook page and sign up today! Also, link your Facebook page and your websites and blogs to NW sites.

LinkedIn

Connect with NW on LinkedIn. Help build your author platform with writing professional connections.

Moved or Changed Email?

Notify NW of any change in address or email: slonightwriters@yahoo.com. Join NW and send dues or renewal checks (payable to SLO NightWriters) to: SLO NightWriters, PO Box 2986, Paso Robles, CA 93447. Or join/renew online through our website: www.slonightwriters.org and pay with credit card, or through PayPal.



Submit Stories, Photos and Ads to the Newsletter

We will publish advertisements for NightWriters' books and book or writing related events. This advertising is Free For Members. Please provide the graphic (book cover or other graphic) for the announcement. We will also accept original photographs, and unpublished Flash Fiction between 400-800 words from current members. Excerpts from published works, if they stand alone as their own mini-story, are also acceptable. We are also interested in articles, kudos and event notices. And if you have any other ideas for content, please let me know.

Send all submissions as attachments to: lilliofslo@aol.com, and be sure to put NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION in the subject line. We're all writers... so, take advantage of this opportunity to be published in your newsletter.

Lillian Brown, Editor